



1401 Eye St. NW Suite 220 Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 354-8205 fax (202) 354-8201

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CONTACT: AUDREY DUFF  
(202)-354-8205

## **Senator Allard Named “Homeownership Hero”**

*Alliance Bestows Award During National Homeownership Month*

Washington, D.C.— The Homeownership Alliance, a housing advocacy group, today honored Senator Wayne Allard (CO) for his contributions to the expansion of homeownership opportunities for all Americans.

“We want to recognize Senator Allard, who has gone the extra mile to help more Americans achieve the dream of homeownership,” said Bob Mitchell, Chairman of the Homeownership Alliance and a past president of the National Association of Home Builders. “Senator Allard understands the benefits of maintaining our housing system and keeping it the best in the world.”

“As a Hero of Homeownership, Senator Allard supports our mission to break down the barriers to homeownership for the millions of minority and lower income families, women-headed households, new Americans and other groups significantly lagging behind the average national homeownership rate,” Mitchell said.

The awards were bestowed on Members during a Homeownership Alliance reception on Capitol Hill to celebrate National Homeownership Month. The Alliance held a kick-off event with HUD Secretary Mel Martinez last week and Alliance member Habitat for Humanity International in Washington, D.C. At the event, the Alliance released an economic study showing that housing’s contribution to the growth of the nation’s economy in 2001 was 40 percent--nearly twice housing’s normal share. For the full study, go to: [www.homeownershipalliance.com](http://www.homeownershipalliance.com)

“It is fitting that during the month the President has set aside to celebrate homeownership, that we take the time to reward the efforts of those in the trenches who are working to expand homeownership,” Mitchell said.

Based in Washington, D.C., the Homeownership Alliance is a coalition of more than a dozen organizations committed to ensuring support for the American housing system. Members include Consumer Federation of America, The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers, The Enterprise Foundation, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Habitat for Humanity International, Independent Community Bankers of America, Independent Insurance Agents of America, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals, National Association of Home Builders, National Association of Real Estate Brokers, the World Floor Covering Association, National Bankers Association, National Council of La Raza, and National Urban League.